

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
AT SEATTLE

LAURIE A. RICCIO,

Plaintiff,

v.

COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL  
SECURITY,

Defendant.

Case No. C19-6126-MLP

ORDER

This matter is before the Court on the Commissioner's unopposed motion for a stay of proceedings. (Dkt. # 8.) The Commissioner moves for a 28-day stay as it works to regain its capacity to produce the certified transcript of record necessary to submit an answer in this matter. (*Id.*) The Commissioner represents that the current COVID-19 pandemic has impacted operations in the Office of Appellate Operations that is responsible for physically producing the transcript. (*Id.*) Specifically, the Commissioner states staff members are teleworking and therefore unable to perform in-person physical tasks associated with preparing transcripts. (*Id.*) The Commissioner represents that although it is working to find a solution, it has yet to do so. (*Id.*) The Commissioner also submitted a declaration representing opposing counsel has no objection to the motion to stay. (Dkt. # 9 ("Martin Decl.") at ¶ 4.)

1 The Court is cognizant of the impact COVID-19 has had on all parties to litigate social  
2 security matters. However, in the interest of adjudicating this matter efficiently, the Court  
3 declines the Commissioner's request for a stay. Instead, the Court grants the Commissioner a 28-  
4 day extension to either obtain the required transcript and submit an answer or seek an additional  
5 extension.

6 Dated this 28th day of April, 2020.

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9 MICHELLE L. PETERSON  
10 United States Magistrate Judge  
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